WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

 A playback apparatus for reproducing data recorded on a disk medium by using an optical pickup, said playback apparatus comprising:

RF signal generating means for generating an RF signal on the basis of an analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;

data signal generating means for generating a data signal by binarizing said RF signal;

defect signal generating means for generating a defect signal for indicating a defect on said disk medium on the basis of said RF signal;

focus error signal generating means for generating a focus error signal on the basis of said analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;

focus servo control means for controlling a focus servo of said optical pickup in response to said focus error signal;

tracking error signal generating means for generating a tracking error signal on the basis of said analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;

tracking servo control means for controlling a tracking servo of said optical pickup in response to said tracking error signal;

monitoring means for monitoring said defect signal and thereby detecting a start and an end of a defect period;

defect period processing control means for controlling said focus servo control means and said tracking servo control means so that said focus servo control means and said tracking servo control means perform defect period processing when a result of the monitoring by said monitoring means indicates said defect period; and

post-defect period processing control means for controlling said focus servo control means and said tracking servo control means so that said focus servo control means and said tracking servo control means perform post-defect period processing when a result of the monitoring by said monitoring means indicates the end of said defect period.

2. A playback apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said defect period processing control means controls said focus servo control means and said tracking servo control means so that said focus error signal or said tracking error signal of said optical pickup is held at a predetermined value.

3. A playback apparatus as claimed in claim 1,

wherein said post-defect period processing control means controls Said focus Servo control means and said tracking servo control means so that servo operation of said optical pickup is sped up.

- 4. A playback apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
 wherein when said monitoring means detects the
 start of said defect period during said post-defect
 period processing performed under control of said postdefect period processing control means, said post-defect
 period processing control means stops said post-defect
 period processing, and said defect period processing
 control means starts said defect period processing.
- 5. A playback method for a playback apparatus, said playback apparatus reproducing data recorded on a disk medium by using an optical pickup, said playback method comprising:

an RF signal generating step for generating an RF signal on the basis of an analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;

- a data signal generating step for generating a data signal by binarizing said RF signal;
- a defect signal generating step for generating a defect signal for indicating a defect on said disk medium on the basis of said RF signal:

- a focus error signal generating step for generating a focus error signal on the basis of said analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;
- a focus servo control step for controlling a focus servo of said optical pickup in response to said focus error signal;
- a tracking error signal generating step for generating a tracking error signal on the basis of said analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;
- a tracking servo control step for controlling a tracking servo of said optical pickup in response to said tracking error signal;
- a monitoring step for monitoring said defect signal and thereby detecting a start and an end of a defect period;
- a defect period processing control step for controlling processing of said focus servo control step and processing of said tracking servo control step so that defect period processing is performed when a result of the monitoring by processing of said monitoring step indicates said defect period; and
- a post-defect period processing control step for controlling the processing of said focus servo control step and the processing of said tracking servo control

step so that post-defect period processing is performed when a result of the monitoring by the processing of said monitoring step indicates the end of said defect period.

6. A recording medium for recording a computer readable playback program for reproducing data recorded on a disk medium by using an optical pickup, said program comprising:

an RF signal generating step for generating an RF signal on the basis of an analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;

- a data signal generating step for generating a data signal by binarizing said RF signal;
- a defect signal generating step for generating a defect signal for indicating a defect on said disk medium on the basis of said RF signal;
- a focus error signal generating step for generating a focus error signal on the basis of said analog signal outputted by said optical pickup:
- a focus servo control step for controlling a focus servo of said optical pickup in response to said focus error signal:
- a tracking error signal generating step for generating a tracking error signal on the basis of said analog signal outputted by said optical pickup;

- a tracking servo control step for controlling a tracking servo of said optical pickup in response to said tracking error signal;
- a monitoring step for monitoring said defect signal and thereby detecting a start and an end of a defect period;
- a defect period processing control step for controlling processing of said focus servo control step and processing of said tracking servo control step so that defect period processing is performed when a result of the monitoring by processing of said monitoring step indicates said defect period; and
- a post-defect period processing control step for controlling the processing of said focus servo control step and the processing of said tracking servo control step so that post-defect period processing is performed when a result of the monitoring by the processing of said monitoring step indicates the end of said defect period.